

# Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN

EDITOR

TUESDAY ..... DECEMBER 31, 1912

What is it that counts in the Celestial City? Only that good which is done for the love of doing it. Only those plans in which the welfare of others is the master thought. Only those labors in which the sacrifice is greater than the wages. Only those gifts in which the giver forgets himself.—Henry van Dyke.

## THE VISION

The man who can visualize today the Honolulu of twenty-five or fifty years hence, could lay the foundation of one of the world's great fortunes. How far the city is going none may say, but that it is going far none will gainsay. From a whaling port to the center of commerce on the Pacific; from a treeless, waterless plain, little better than a desert, to a city of homes crowning every hill, of workshops humming with industry, of tall buildings, busy streets,—a city of modernity, of twentieth century type. From obscurity to a place in the world of men and achievement!

The vision of ultimate destiny is denied, and happily so, or the toil and disappointment between Now and Then might overshadow the glorious picture. But we know enough to say now that Honolulu enters the New Year prepared and preparing for a long succession of New Years that mean new deeds, new faiths fulfilled, new fields won. The practical side of it all is simply that each of us may build for his city as he builds for his home and himself. The great city is founded on humble homes and every-day toil. There is no work so obscure or so lowly that it may not be made to count as a stone in the structure reared toward the skies.

## POLITICS AND THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

"Why don't the papers tell the whole story about the fire department in politics?" says Richard H. Trent.

The Star-Bulletin is quite willing that the "whole story", whatever it is, should be published and therefore asked Mr. Trent to follow up the query above with some statements on the subject. They appear today. If there is any reason why Chief Thurston should not be re-appointed, by all means let's have it. Up to the present, no reason except politics has been advanced. Mr. Trent makes some indirect charges against the department. They lack in definiteness, and the Star-Bulletin would be glad to see them run down so that the citizens of Honolulu may know what they amount to.

## THE CLAUQUE AT WORK

The morning paper hails Sheriff Jarrett's investigation of the scandal in his department with such loud praise that it almost seems as if Jarrett is doing a wonderful and noble thing instead of merely carrying out a duty that public sentiment demands he should fulfill promptly. The Star-Bulletin is quite willing to give Jarrett all the praise that is necessary for a public official who performs a quite obvious duty, but this paper has no patience with fulsome and fat-

## PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS

(Continued from page 1.)

ritorial general property tax rate must be uniform throughout the territory, what is to be done as to the other islands? If the rate cannot be reduced as to property in the municipality and maintained at the present rate in the counties, the revision and readjustment will have to extend throughout the territory. In that event it would become necessary to give the counties the power of taxation, if not as fully as that given to Honolulu, at least to a considerable extent.

It might be worth while to consider in this connection, as an alternative to the general property tax, and the specific personal and property taxes now in vogue and suggested for continuation, the subject of the single tax, which has much to recommend it. If the single tax would have the effect of breaking up, on the other islands, large tracts of land which present owners do not put to profitable use, but which others may be willing and ready to develop if they could buy or lease (preferably buy) on reasonable terms, and would have the further effect, on Honolulu, of driving the disreputable shacks out of what would otherwise be beautiful residence sections, it would be well worth adopting.

Health matters also will require careful attention. The dividing line between territorial and municipal authority should be defined as clearly as possible in order to avoid duplication of work and conflict of authority. It is suggested that the city should have charge of garbage removal, in-

spection of markets, pot shops and such matters as require the certificate of a health officer as a prerequisite to obtaining a license, as for lodging and tenement houses and restaurants; also (if any) all other purely local affairs. Jurisdiction of all other health matters to remain with the territory. It would probably be an advantage to have the assessing done by the territory. This would permit of a uniform basis and consistent system throughout the territory, and perhaps by relieving the territorial officers of the work of collecting, the way would be opened for much needed improvement and efficiency in the matter of assessing. It could be provided that the territorial assessment should be assessed by the municipality. The collecting would probably be done with more promptness and less loss by the city officials. Under the present system property taxes have been known to remain uncollected for several years without any attempt being made to enforce payment. The collector should be put under bonds to collect all taxes which have been assessed before the next year comes around or show good and sufficient reasons for not having collected them. The territory might be required to pay the municipality a small commission for collecting its portion of the property tax.

Laws relating to the obstruction of sidewalks, use of streets, fast driving etc., should be municipal and not territorial. As to some of these and incidental matters there is at present some unnecessary overlapping, duplication and confusion by reason of territorial statutes, city ordinances and regulations of the board of health which deal with the same subjects, covering the same ground and pre-

scribing different penalties for practically the same acts.

## 2-Form of Government.

The short ballot. Five commissioners and an auditor to be elected every two years. The commissioners to choose one of their number to act as mayor, and if they (or a majority) cannot agree, the governor to designate the mayor. Commissioners to appoint on majority vote the city clerk, treasurer, attorney, sheriff and deputy sheriffs, road engineer, chief of fire department, superintendent of water-works, superintendent of electric lights, and chief of garbage department. All other officials employed on annual salary basis to be under civil service rules. The commissioners to appoint a city manager at a salary to be fixed in the charter at, say, four thousand dollars a year. Such manager to have charge of all purchasing on account of the city, the advertising for tenders for supplies and public work and reporting on all expenditures, under the general direction of the commissioners. The commissioners to receive a salary of three hundred dollars per annum.

Note: The city manager would be the supervising executive of the board of commissioners, and its representative in daily touch with the doings of the several executive departments. The department heads would have to recognize the manager as the personal representative of the board and to get accustomed to his "butting in". The manager would have to devote his entire time to these duties and would not be allowed to engage in any other business. The board of commissioners would be a money-appropriating, ordinance-making and contract-awarding body. The

## LETTERS ON TIMELY TOPICS

### FOR THE SOLDIER.

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin, Sir:—I am a young woman living in the suburbs, on a lonely road, in an isolated spot. Often at night, when obliged to walk from the electric car to my house, I follow closely in the wake of the many soldiers going

my way, for protection, and my confidence has never been abused. A finer, manlier lot than the soldiers in Honolulu I have yet to see. Long may they live! The brave men who take their lives in their hands for their country—and woe betide anyone who tries to underrate them! A WOMAN.

## LITTLE INTERVIEWS

P. M. POND—The proposition to widen Kapahulu road is a good one. It should be done.

ALEXANDER YOUNG—People who enjoy themselves so thoroughly at Kapiolani Park should remember that the park is worthy much greater financial help than it now receives.

JUDGE C. S. DOLE (Kauai)—I will miss the celebration in Honolulu tonight, but I suppose we shall have some fun on the steamer. I have enjoyed Christmas week here very much.

HENRY COBBADAM—That was a good idea to have the book-keeping of the county road districts done at the head office in town. It was also an excellent suggestion to have business license fees collected by the deputy tax collectors. Before a license, under this arrangement, can get his license he will have to pay his taxes.

WM. BUSH—Why may we in Honolulu not organize something like the "Royal Rosarians" of Portland or the "Veiled Prophets" of St. Louis to boost our annual February festivities? The organization could be made semi-ritualistic and peculiarly local, so that our citizens could find in it not only an opportunity to boost but other modes of interest. Let us hope that Jack Doyle will let this soak in.

commissioners would not be bothered with all the details, which take so much of the time of the present supervisors. The manager would attend to all those. The commissioners would not take office for the sake of getting a salary, and the pay suggested would merely be enough to prevent them being out of pocket by reason of accepting office.

4-Other Details. The recall of elected officers upon petition of one-fourth of the number of the registered voters at any time after one year of service. Any commissioner recalled to be thereafter disqualified from election to the office of commissioner. The proposed new charter to be submitted to popular vote.

Note: With two-year terms for the commissioners, the extinction of considerable of the patronage through the introduction of civil service rules, and the fixing of the salaries of the principal officers in the charter, the recall would not be likely to become a nuisance through frequent use. One-fourth of the registered voters would be about the equivalent of one-third of the votes cast at the last preceding election. To require a higher percentage would render the recall useless. The committee of twenty-five should start a campaign of education among the Hawaiians to explain to them the deficiencies of the present law and the advantages of a higher-grade charter; otherwise the chances for the adoption of a new charter will be small.

## 1913

By ANNA M. PARIS

God be with us on the threshold  
Of the year we stand today.  
God be with us—just before us  
Lies the unknown, untrod way.

And the Old Year bids us enter  
Fearlessly on paths untrod—  
Questioning not! Unknown the region!  
Yesterday shall be our guide.

Faithful yesterday—preceptor,  
Friend and guide and benison  
Through our wanderings in the darkness.  
It has led us on and on!

By the Power we know above us,  
By the strength that's ours through pain,  
By the wisdom we have garnered  
In those hours when all seemed vain

Do we know,—upheld, befriended  
By our guide, as ne'er before,  
We who follow now may enter  
Trustingly the open door.

## DIED.

DUNN—At Honoumuli, Hawaii, Dec. 29, 1912, William Dunn.

The funeral will be held from H. H. Williams' undertaking parlors Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Interment at Nuanu cemetery.

## For Sale

COLLEGE HILLS—2 choice residence lots 13,500 sq. ft. each.....\$1250  
OCEAN VIEW—Modern home with all conveniences.....\$3500  
New Bungalow, excellent view.....\$7000  
WILHELMINA RISE—5-room Bungalow.....\$3000  
KAIMUKI—Modern 4-room house, large grounds.....\$4500  
WAIKIKI—Choice building lot, 7200 sq. ft.....\$1750  
PAWAA—Modern 1½ story house.....\$2000  
Fine building lot 12,381 sq. ft.....\$6000  
PUNAHOU—6-room house and cottage.....\$4500  
Modern 5-room bungalow.....\$4850  
PALAMA—3-bedroom house and lot.....\$1750  
PACIFIC HEIGHTS—Choice home.....\$8000  
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## PERSONALITIES

B. V. COX is registered at the Young from St. Louis.

MR. and MRS. J. BROWN, residents of Modesto, California, are visitors to the islands.

H. F. GARVER and Miss Jean Garver are making a tour of the islands. They are from Des Moines.

CARL J. CARLSMITH of Hilo arrived in the city on the Mauna Kea this morning. Serious illness is the cause of his visit.

MR. and MRS. W. H. EAKER have returned from a visit to the Volcano, and will spend some little time in and about Honolulu before returning to their home in San Francisco.

M. H. DRUMMOND, newly appointed chief deputy city and county treasurer, was an arrival in the steamer Mauna Kea. Mr. Drummond has spent some time at Hilo with the brewer company.

PRINCESS KAWANAKAKOA will have a double celebration tomorrow, to mark the birth of the New Year and the anniversary of the date of her own birth. She will keep open house for her friends from ten in the morning until one in the afternoon.

A. C. FOX, at one time with the Ferris Hartman Company, left the theatrical aggregation in Japan, and was a taroqua passenger in the Pacific Mail liner China that passed through Honolulu this morning. Mr. Fox has severed his connection with the enterprise.

## FIRE CHIEF ASSAILED

(Continued from page 1.)

sure it because the rates are so high. That does not speak very well for the efficiency of the fire department, or at least for the confidence of the board of underwriters in the fire department.

"If," concluded Mr. Trent, "any of these things that are being urged against Mr. Thurston are not true, I would like to see him deny them over his signature in print. If they are true, however, I think it belittling in him now to cry 'politics' when there seems to be some possibility of his being asked to lie in the bed he has made for himself."

Thurston Replies  
In reply to the above statement of Mr. Trent, Fire Chief Thurston said this morning:

"Mr. Trent intimates that I am compelling firemen to live in cottages I own near fire stations. There is not a word of truth in this. Take the seven cottages I own near the Palama station. Three firemen occupy three of these cottages. I charge them fifteen dollars a month rent. Similar cottages across the street rent at a higher figure. On the Asylum road there are two cottages that are duplicates of mine. They rent, I am told, for twenty dollars a month. I could get more money for those cottages of mine, but I have not the heart to raise the rent on the firemen, and without doing that I can not raise the rent of the other tenants. As a matter of fact the firemen are but too glad to get these cottages. They are thus enabled to have their families close by, and the arrangement is good for them, and good for the department as well, as the men are always close by when an alarm sounds. If any one doubts this statement let them ask the firemen who are living in those cottages.

"While I am on this subject I want to say that I built those cottages at the suggestion of the firemen themselves. Several firemen wanted to live near the fire-station and could not afford to pay the rents in such places as Palama and Makiki, particularly the latter. I was asked if there were any way in which they could get cottages cheaply. I thereupon took up the idea of building these cottages and renting them at a low figure, and I defy any man to show anything but good results to the department from this policy. I don't make money out of the cottages as I could if I rented them to others than firemen."

No Politics  
The charge that I lined the firemen up and pinned Parker buttons on them, is either a political statement without a ray of truth to give it weight, or Mr. Trent has been very sadly misinformed, and should look closer to his source of information. The accusation that I have been working against Mayor Fern, or did work against him during the last election is pure falsehood. Mayor Fern ap-

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pointed me twice, and though I am a Republican, and have been a Republican all along, I did not feel that I could, in honor, oppose Fern's candidacy for the office he holds. I defy them to prove that I lifted a hand to the injury of Fern's political hopes. Indeed I may say that I have played no active politics, nor do I propose to play politics. Politics is not my business, I am here to fight fires, and that keeps me busy enough."

The newly-elected board of supervisors is not believed to be preparing to remove Thurston, though changes in his department are indicated. One story that reached the Star-Bulletin from an authentic source

Two hundred and one, Jan. 10th—advertisement.

For news and the truth about it, see the Star-Bulletin.

## HOUSES FOR RENT

### Furnished:

Tantalus .....\$40.00  
Kaimuki .....\$16.50, \$40.00  
Kahala Beach .....\$50.00, \$75.00  
Nuuanu Ave. ....\$50.00  
Pacific Heights .....\$100.00  
Miki Lane .....\$27.50

### Unfurnished:

Waipio .....\$12.00  
Wildier Ave. ....\$35.00  
Kaimuki .....\$30.00  
Ala Moana and Ena Road .....\$50.00  
College Hills .....\$40.00, \$22.50, \$50.00  
Pawaa Lane .....\$18.00  
Punahou Ave. ....\$30.00  
Beretania St. ....\$18.00, \$20.00  
King Street .....\$50.00  
Freeland Place .....\$17.50  
Lunalilo Street .....\$45.00

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House, lot and furniture, Park Ave., Kaimuki .....\$2700  
House, lot and furniture, 6th Ave., Kaimuki .....\$2700  
1 Acre on 10th Ave, Kaimuki .....\$ 600  
1 lot, Claudine Ave.....\$ 425

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